

Message Text

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14

ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-06 MCT-01 SY-05 PRS-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 EB-07

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DRAFTED BY AF/S:JSDAVIDOW:DRP

APPROVED BY AF/S:DWKEOGH

ARA/CCA:T.HOLLADAY (SUBS)

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P 012122Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MZ, CU, PFOR

SUBJECT: CUBAN PLANE CRASH

REF: MAPUTO 1385

1. IN ANY RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES WHICH MAY DEVELOP OUT OF MOZAMBIKAN ACCEPTANCE OF CUBAN ALLEGATIONS THAT THE CIA WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EXPLOSION ON THE CUBAN AIRLINER AND THE DEATH OF 73 PEOPLE, EMBASSY SHOULD REFER TO THE STATEMENT MADE BY SECRETARY KISSINGER ON OCTOBER 15.

2. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF QUESTION AND ANSWER OF SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE ON THAT DATE IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS.:

Q. MR. SECRETARY, HOW IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT RESPONDING TO FIDEL CASTRO'S STATEMENT THAT HIS COUNTRY IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CANCELLING THE 1973 SKY-JACKING AGREEMENT WITH THE

UNITED STATES?

A. FIRST, IN MY SPEECH TO THE UNITED NATIONS I CON-
DEMNED TERRORISM AS AN INSTRUMENT OF NATIONAL POLICY
PURSUED BY ANY NATION, FOR WHATEVER CAUSE. THE UNITED

STATES IS NOT ENGAGED IN ANY ACTIVITY OF THIS KIND, AND
THE CHARGE BY FIDEL CASTRO THAT THE UNITED STATES OR
ITS GOVERNMENT, OR ANY AGENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT HAD
ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE EXPLOSION OF THAT AIRLINE IS
TOTALLY FALSE.

SECONDLY, WE THINK THAT IT IS AN ACT OF COMPLETE
IRRESPONSIBILITY TO ENCOURAGE HIJACKING AT THIS MOMENT
AT A TIME WHEN THE -- WHEN ONE OF THE BIGGEST OF HUMAN
PROBLEMS IS THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES THAT CANNOT POSSIBLY
INFLUENCE POLITICAL DECISIONS OR FOREIGN POLICY DECI-
SIONS. AND WE HAVE STATED TODAY, AND I REPEAT AGAIN,
THAT WE WILL HOLD THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABLE FOR
ANY ACTIONS THAT RESULT FROM THEIR DECISION.

ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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